

## Message Text

SECRET

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ACTION PM-03

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 AF-04 INR-05 CIAE-00 MCE-00  
OMB-01 TRSE-00 IGA-01 L-01 SP-02 NSCE-00 SSO-00  
INRE-00 EB-04 H-01 /037 W  
-----107484 201733Z /45

O R 201620Z DEC 77  
FM AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4060  
INFO DSAA WASHINGTON  
DA WASHINGTON  
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GERMANY  
USDAO NDJAMENA CHAD

S E C R E T SECTION 1 OF 2 YAOUNDE 5611

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: MASS, CM  
SUBJ: PREPARATION OF CONGRESSIONAL PRESENTATION DOCUMENT  
(CPD) FOR FY 79 SECURITY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

REF: (A) STATE 297352, (B) YAOUNDE 5579, (C) YAOUNDE 3440,  
(D) YAOUNDE 3005, (E) 76 YAOUNDE 3058, (F) YAOUNDE 3367

1. SUMMARY: THIS TELEGRAM TRANSMITS THE EMBASSY'S RESPONSE TO QUESTIONS

RAISED PARA 3 B (3,4) REFTEL. REFTEL B TRANSMITTED THE  
RESPONSE TO OTHER QUESTIONS RAISED REFTEL A. END SUMMARY.

2. REFTELS C THROUGH F TRANSMITTED CAMEROONIAN MILITARY EQUIPMENT  
REQUIREMENTS SINCE THE INITIAL REQUEST IN 1976 THROUGH THE FIRST  
PREPARATION FOR THE FY 79 BUDGET CYCLE. THE PRESENT TELEGRAM IS THE  
RESULT OF EMBASSY CONSULTATIONS WITH IBRAHIMA WADJIRI, SECRETARY  
GENERAL MINISTRY OF ARMED FORCES, ON DECEMBER 15TH AND A FOLLOW UP  
LETTER FROM WADJIRI ON DECEMBER 16TH DETAILING THE GURC'S LATEST  
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DETERMINATION OF MEANS WHICH WILL BE USED TO ACQUIRE THE PREVIOUSLY  
REQUESTED MILITARY EQUIPMENT (SEE REFTEL C).  
DEC 16 LETTER RANK ORDER EQUIPMENT INTO TWO LISTS: 1) THAT  
EQUIPMENT WHICH WILL BE PURCHASED FY 78 THROUGH \$5 MILLION  
FMS CREDITS; 2) POSSIBLE COMMERCIAL PURCHASES IF ADDITIONAL  
FMS CREDITS NOT MADE AVAILABLE. IN THE ABSENCE OF ANY RESPONSE  
TO REPEATED REQUESTS FOR PRICING INFO, EMBASSY HAS MADE THE

FOLLOWING ROUGH COST ESTIMATES TO INCLUDE 10-15 PERCENT SPARES,  
PCH&T COSTS AND DOD ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS. TOTAL ESTIMATED  
COST OF LIST 1 IS \$5.87 MILLION AND OF LIST 2 IS \$16.5 MILLION.

LIST 1 PROPOSED ITEMS TO BE PURCHASED DURING FY 78 WITH  
FMS CREDIT:

QUANTITY	ARTICLE	EST. COST
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A. 2 DIESEL RECONNAISSANCE RECOVERY VEHICLES

FOR VC 150'SND		\$375.00
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B. 50 50 CALIBER MACHINES GUNS \$550,000

C. 50 106 RECOILESS RIFLES WITH VEHICULAR MOUNTS  
\$900,000

D. 50 M825 JEEPS TO TRANSPORT 106 RECOILLESS  
RIFLES \$725,000

E. 150 M151 A2 JEEPS \$1.5 MILLION

F. 48 M35 TRUCKS \$1.7 MILLION

G. 2 M35 A2 TRUCKS CONFIGURED AS COMMUNICATIONS  
VANS WITH ONE 400 WATT RADIO AND ANCILLARY  
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EQUIPMENT INCLUDING TELEPRINTERS \$120,000

LIST 2 POSSIBLE COMMERCIAL PURCHASES IN U.S.:

A. 7,000 M16 RIFLES \$2.1 MILLION

B. RADIO EQUIPMENT (DETAILED LISTING  
REFTEL C) \$7 MILLION

C. 2 COASTAL SURVEILLANCE RADAR  
INSTALLATIONS \$2 MILLION

D. 30 MACK TRUCKS (SEE REFOAXC) \$900,000

E. 1 VC 150 RECOVERY VEHICLE  
6 VC 150'S WITH 20MM  
6 VC 150'S WITH 90MM \$3.5 MILLION

F. ROAD BUILDING EQUIPMENT (SEE REFTTEL C) \$1 MILLION

4. WADJIRI IS UNAWARE OF POSSIBLE \$3 MILLION FY 79 FMS ALLOCATION  
AND IN PREPARING LISTS HE USED \$5 MILLION AS PLANNING FIGURE.

WADJIRI IS, HOWEVER, AWARE OF DIFFICULTY IN OBTAINING COMMERCIAL FINANCING FOR MOST LETHAL WEAPONS, AND HE REALIZES THAT IT IS UNLIKELY GURC WILL BE WILLING OR ABLE TO LOCATE FINANCING OR ALLOCATE INTERNAL FUNDS FOR ALL ITEMS ON LISTS NOT COVERED BY FMS CREDIT. FOR THESE REASONS LIST 1 IS COMBINATION OF BOTH HIGHEST PRIORITY ITEMS AND LETHAL WEAPONS. LIST 2 ALSO CONTAINS HIGH PRIORITY ITEMS, AND WADJIRI INDICATED IF FURTHER CREDITS WERE MADE AVAILABLE, THEY WOULD BE APPLIED TO THEIR PURCHASE.

5. DETAILED COMMENTS ON LIST 1 OF EQUIPMENT TO BE PURCHASED THROUGH FMS CREDITS ARE AS FOLLOWS:

A) RECOVERY VEHICLES: NAPCO HAS MADE OFFER TO FURNISH ALL 15 VC 150 VEHICLES REQUESTED BY GURC. GURC HAS PRESENT NEED  
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ONLY FOR TWO RECOVERY VEHICLES. FMS CREDIT PURCHASE OF THESE TWO WILL PERMIT GURC TO DEFER DECISION ON ADDITIONAL VC 150'S. WHEN AND WHETHER THEY PLACE ORDER FOR ADDITIONAL 13 VEHICLES DEPENDS ON RECRUITMENT AND TRAINING PROGRAMS, THEIR EXPERIENCE WITH EXISTING INVENTORY VC 150'S, AND THEIR PERCEPTION OF THREAT IN NORTH. NEVERTHELESS, CURRENT PLANNING CALLS FOR VC 150'S TO BE IN PLACE 1980, WHEN NEW BATTALION ACTIVATED IN NORTH.

B & C) MACHINE GUNS AND RECOILLESS RIFLES: GURC AWARE THAT IT IS DIFFICULT TO OBTAIN COMMERCIAL FINANCING FOR LETHAL WEAPONS. THEREFORE, IT WISHES USE FMS IN ORDER TO COMPLETE ACQUISITION THESE WEAPONS, WHICH WILL BRING GURC STOCKS UP TO PREVIOUSLY PLANNED LEVELS. FYI: NIGERIA ALSO HAS 106'S AND ALL CAMEROON'S NEIGHBORS BELIEVED HAVE 50 CALIBER MACHINE GUNS. THUS ACQUISITION THESE ARMS WILL NOT INTRODUCE ANY NEW WEAPONS SYSTEM INTO AREA. END FYI.

D,E, & F) JEEPS AND TRUCKS: MILITARY MANEUVERS LAST APRIL REVEALED TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT TO BE TWO GREATEST NEEDS. GURC HAS BEEN IN CONTACT WITH NAPCO AND GATEWAY CONCERNING COMMERCIAL PURCHASE JEEPS AND TRUCKS.

G) RADIO VANS: THESE ARE HIGH PRIORITY ITEMS AND EQUIPMENT FOR SAME MAY NOT BE AS EASILY OBTAINABLE THROUGH COMMERCIAL CHANNELS.

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S E C R E T SECTION 2 OF 2 YAOUNDE 5611

LIMDIS

6. DETAILED COMMENTS ON LIST 2 TO BE PURCHASED THROUGH  
COMMERCIAL CHANNELS IF ADDITIONAL FMS CREDITS NOT AVAILABLE:

A) GURC SHIFTED M16'S FROM FMS CREDIT LIST FOR TWO REASONS:  
FIRST, UNDER FMS GURC WOULD BE REQUIRED TO PURCHASE SIGNIFICANT  
QUANTITY M16'S, WHICH WOULD POSE PROBLEMS FOR SMOOTH INTEGRATION  
OF THESE WEAPONS INTO GURC ARSENAL. SECOND, GURC HAS ALREADY MADE  
TWO SMALL COMMERCIAL PURCHASES FOR TOTAL 3,000 M16'S THROUGH  
GATEWAY AND COLT. BOTH THESE TRANSACTIONS MOVED RELATIVELY  
SMOOTHLY AND GURC WELL SATISFIED WITH RESULTS.

B) RADIO EQUIPMENT: GURC HAS RECEIVED OFFER FROM GATEWAY TO  
FINANCE OVER \$7 MILLION COLLINS RADIO EQUIPMENT. IT IS BELIEVED  
THAT DURING RECENT TRIP OF MAJOR SINGH (CHIEF OF SIGNALS) TO  
U.S. NAPCO MAY HAVE MADE SIMILAR OFFER. SINGH IS PREPARING  
TRIP REPORT AND IN VIEW HIGH COST, GURC MAY DECIDE DEFER  
ACQUISITION TO ONLY THOSE ITEMS MOST URGENTLY REQUIRED,  
ESPECIALLY IF FMS FINANCING UNAVAILABLE.

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C) COASTAL SURVEILLANCE RADAR: THIS IS PURCHASE GURC CAN DEFER  
FOR YEAR OR TWO SINCE PETROLEUM REFINERY TO BE PROTECTED NOT  
YET EVEN UNDER CONSTRUCTION.

D & F) TRUCK AND ROAD BUILDING EQUIPMENT: IN CONJUNCTION WITH  
FRENCH CONSTRUCTION FIRM, GATEWAY HAS MADE PROPOSAL TO GURC FOR  
MACK TRUCK AND ALLIS-FIAT EQUIPMENT. IN ADDITION, NAPCO HAS MADE  
OFFER ON ROAD BUILDING EQUIPMENT.

G) 13 VC 150'S: THESE ARE NOT REQUIRED UNTIL 1980 AND NAPCO HAS ALREADY MADE AN OFFER TO FINANCE.

7. U.S. SOURCE COMMERCIAL PURCHASES: DURING FY 77 AND 78 KNOWN COMMERCIAL PURCHASES OF U.S. MILITARY EQUIPMENT BY GURC LIMITED TO TWO C-130'S AT TOTAL COST OF ABOUT \$19.5 MILLION AND 3,000 M16'S AT TOTAL COST OF \$900,000. FIFTEEN MILLION OF C-130 PURCHASE FINANCED AS MEDIUM TERM LOAN FROM CONSORTIUM U.S. AND EUROPEAN BANKS.

8. COMMENT: IT IS OBVIOUS FROM COMPARING THE DIFFERENT SUB-MISSIONS OF CAMEROONIAN MILITARY EQUIPMENT REQUIREMENTS THAT THE GURC THINKING IS CONSTANTLY EVOLVING (SEE PARA 3 ABOVE AND COMPARE REFTELS C THROUGH F). ITEMS REMAIN SAME, ONLY RANK ORDER CHANGES. LIST 1 ABOVE WAS DRAFTED BY WADJIRI ON BASIS OF PRESENTLY AVAILABLE \$5 MILLION FMS CREDITS (PROBABLY WITHOUT PROVISION FOR PCH&T, SPARES AND DOD ADMIN COSTS) AND LIST 2 IS COMPOSED OF EVERYTHING ELSE. FOR, IT IS OBVIOUS THAT WHATEVER CANNOT BE PURCHASED THROUGH FMS CREDITS, MUST BE PURCHASED COMMERCIALY. IF ADDITIONAL FMS CREDITS WERE AVAILABLE, THEN GURC WOULD USE THEM TO OBTAIN ITEMS MORE OR LESS IN RANK ORDER OF LIST TWO. IN ACCORDANCE INSTRUCTION REFTEL A, WADJIRI WAS ONLY TOLD THAT REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL FUNDS HAD BEEN MADE AND NOT GIVEN ANY PLANNING LEVEL.

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9. DUE TO STRINGENT BUDGETARY LIMITATIONS, IT IS DOUBTFUL, THAT THE GURC MILITARY WILL BE ABLE TO MAKE ANY SIGNIFICANT COMMERCIAL PURCHASES, IF EVER. THEREFORE, A NUMBER OF ITEMS CONSIDERED NECESSARY TO BRING CAMEROON MILITARY EVENTUALLY UP TO MINIMUM DESIRABLE DEFENSIVE LEVEL, MAY NOT BE PURCHASES.

10. THE EMBASSY NOTES THAT SIMULTANEOUSLY THERE WILL BE VISITORS FROM DOD, USCINCEUR AND THE USDATT NDJAMENA IN JANUARY AND HOPEFULLY WORKING TOGETHER WE WILL BE ABLE TO ENCOURAGE THE GURC TO REQUEST LETTERS OF OFFER IN ORDER TO BEGIN IMPLEMENTATION FY 78 FMS CREDITS PROGRAM AND PIN DOWN MORE EXACTLY WHAT REQUIREMENTS FY 79 FMS PROGRAM WILL MEET. IN THIS CONNECTION IT WOULD BE HELPFUL TO RECEIVE AN EARLY RESPONSE TO THE REQUEST FOR APPROXIMATE PRICING INFORMATION (P&B) ASKED FOR IN JULY REFTEL C..SMYTHE

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## Message Attributes

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**Type:** TE  
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